ODAY TODA

aks Everybody Listens

The state of Utah provides about 25 percent of the current annual funding to the seismology research group. Other support comes from the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Science Foundation, the National Park Service, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and private industrial grants from the petroleum industry.

Arabasz says the state of Utah receives a multifold return for the financial support it gives to seismology research. In addition to an excellent education program, he says, the state benefits from the presence of the modern earthquake recording and research facilities, the availability of scientific expertise, abundant earthquake information for emergency response and long-term planning and dedicated public service.

The state also benefits from a wide range of information collected in a variety of special earthquake field projects conducted throughout Utah, including many for which it has contributed little or no funding.

By attracting leading scientists from across the U.S. and from leading European universities and institutes, the University's seismological research has achieved distinction. And the breadth and quality of the research continually attracts top students from across the country into the graduate program, which currently includes three Ph.D.-level and 13 master's-level students in seismology.

As examples of quality, Smith notes his group's leadership in various national and international research efforts. Three major field experiments it spearheaded in the Intermountain region during the last five years attracted the participation of 13 U.S. universities as well as top research groups from Switzerland, Germany, England and France.

The University group recently organized and hosted the Fifth International Meeting of the Commission on Controlled Source Seismology, the 1983 annual meeting of the Seismological Society of America, and a national workshop on "Guidelines for Instrumentation Design in Support of a Proposed Lithospheric Seismology Program."

University seismologists also serve on national review panels and advisory boards for major Intermountain area, with its inherited complications from older folding and thrusting, and younger fragmentation from basin-range block faulting, University seismologists are systematically studying conventional reflection and refraction data donated by petroleum companies. The extensive data result from regional exploration for new oil and gas deposits throughout the Intermountain area.

One of the chief motivations for getting a better picture of Utah's subsurface geology is to understand its association with earthquake activity, explains Arabasz.

"One of the real banes of earthquake hazard evaluation in the Intermountain region," says Arabasz, "is identifying potential sources of moderate earthquakes that may have no clear surface expression." Smith emphasizes there is great uncertainty about the subsurface shape and mechanical behavior of major faults like the Wasatch.

In piecing together information on the correlation of earthquake activity with geological structure, especially for small to moderate earthquakes, University seismologists use networks of portable seismographs to conduct special field studies in Utah and other parts of the Intermountain area -- Idaho, Wyoming and Montana.

In field studies carried out during the last four years, seismologists have listened to "rock talk" in numerous seismically active locations throughout the state--from the Utah-Idaho line to central and southern Utah.

Not surprisingly, the seismology group's highest visibility comes whenever a seismic disturbance occurs, placing emergency response demands on a staff of scientists and support personnel already laden with teaching and research commitments.

As a matter of policy, University seismologists maintain "a professional responsibility and commitment to respond, with the highest priority, to situations affecting public safety or the public need for information dealing with any seismic disturbance," says Smith.

To ensure 24-hour surveillance, data from nine key detection stations in the University network are transmitted continuously to the National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colo., where an alarm system notifies seismologists whenever a major tremor occurs.

Even though sufficient funding isn't available to man the computer recording facility round the clock, the equipment is always working.

Valley News

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Missionary News

Sister Lois Bonner

Sister Lois Bonner has accepted a mission call for the LDS Church to the Minnesota-Minneapolis Mission. Her farewell will be Jan. 1, 1984 at 2:45 p.m. in the Midway 1st, 2nd, 4th Ward Chapel. She will enter the MTC January 11, 1984.

Sister Patti Weight

Patti Weight, daughter of Joe and Belle Weight, has received a call to serve in the Stockholm, Sweden Mission for the LDS Church. She will enter the Mission Training Center on January 26th. Her farewell will be held on January 1 in the Charleston Ward at 10:45 a.m.

Patti is a 1981 graduate of Wasatch High School and has been studying Graphic Design at B.Y.U. for the past two and a half years.

Elder Joel Kohler

Elder Joel A. Kohler has been called to serve in the Japan Sendia Mission for the LDS Church. His farewell will be in the Midway 1st, 4th, and 2nd Ward Chapel on Jan. 1, 1984, at 12:15 p.m. He will enter the MTC on Jan. 12.

Elder Ben Probst

Ben H. Probst has been called to serve as a missionary of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Tonga Nuku'alofa Mission. He will enter the Missionary Training Center in Provo on January 12. A farewell will be held for him Sunday, January 1, at the Midway 3rd Ward Chapel at 10:45 a.m. Ben is the son of Wayne and Audrey Probst.

Elder Scott Richardson